

Serial No.: 10/698,111
Art Unit: 3732

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the following paragraphs and sections on Page 1 of the Specification with the following new paragraphs and sections, which are marked up to show changes made relative to the immediate prior version. Newly added paragraphs and sections to Page 1 have not been underlined in accordance with Patent Office rules.

TITLE

VERTICALLY AND HORIZONTALLY STANDING DENTAL SCALER SYSTEM AND METHOD

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to an electronically controlled dental scaler system and method. More particularly, the dental scaler system includes an apparatus that can be placed in a vertical or horizontal standing position.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides a dental scaler apparatus having a power control circuit. A scaler handpiece is attached to the apparatus by a handpiece connector cable. The scaler housing includes a first base side having a plurality of first base feet extending therefrom. The first base feet substantially support the housing when it is standing in a vertical position. The scaler housing also includes a second base side, which is integrally connected to the first base side, having a plurality of second base feet extending therefrom. The second base feet substantially support the housing when it is standing in a horizontal position. The apparatus also includes a holder side, which is integrally connected to the second base side, and includes a handpiece holder for supporting the scaler handpiece when the handpiece is not being used. In addition, the apparatus includes an integrally connected control side with at least one adjuster knob.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 is a frontal perspective view of a dental scaler system in accordance with the invention with the housing in its vertical position.

FIGURE 2 is a side perspective view of a dental scaler system in accordance with the invention with the housing in its vertical position.

FIGURE 3 is a side perspective view of the housing in its vertical position as shown in FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 4 is a frontal perspective view of the housing in its horizontal position.

FIGURE 5 is a rear perspective view of the housing.

FIGURE 6 is a schematic diagram of the circuit of the dental scaler system of FIGURES 1 THROUGH 5.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The invention is now described with more particular reference to FIGURES 1 through 6. With more particular reference to FIGURE 1 is seen dental scaler system 10 having dental scaler apparatus 12 and scaler handpiece 14 having coil 16. Scaler handpiece 14 has tip 15 (not shown) and magnetostrictive stack 17 (not shown). Dental scaler apparatus 12 has housing 18 and scaler power control circuit 20. Dental scaler system 10 is supported by horizontal support surface 13. The coil 16 is connected through an electrical conductor 22 to scaler power control circuit 20. Control adjuster 21, which may be a variable resistor, is connected through control side 23 to scaler power control circuit 20. Knob 19 is connected to control adjuster 21.